

Juduser

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2022 9:52 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: SB16 and HB5416

Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and all members of the Judiciary Committee,

I'm writing to voice my requests that you OPPOSE both SB16 and HB5416. These laws are written to restrict the law-abiding citizen who chooses to exercise their God given right to bear arms, and the ability to defend themselves. I absolutely believe crime needs to be addressed, we have an ongoing problem particularly with juveniles in this state. This series of proposed laws will only create more criminals while doing nothing to stop crime. Year after year you meet to discuss new legislation pertaining to gun laws and you do nothing to restrict crime. Your actions have only negatively restricted law-abiding citizens. We do not need additional gun control measures in the state of Connecticut.

We do not have a crime epidemic with 'pre-ban' rifles or firearms with 'arm braces'. An overwhelming majority of reported "gun-related deaths" are due to suicide. Of those deaths, virtually none have been committed with these firearms you intend on banning. According to the CDC, Connecticut's firearm deaths are 6 per 100,000, which includes suicide. This number puts CT at 43rd in gun violence out of 50 states. This makes Connecticut one of the top safest states to live in.

This proposed legislation is nothing more than grandstanding in an election year. Outlawing the mentioned firearms (and more) does nothing to stop crime in our state while attacking the rights of hundreds of thousands of legal permit holders statewide. I ask every one of you to step outside your box and fully educate yourself on gun safety and Connecticut based statistics in regards to firearms. Gain hands on experience, and see the actual differences of these proposed restrictions and the bearing it has on responsible gun owners.

In addition to OPPOSING SB16 AND HB5416, I fully SUPPORT HB388, HB5415, AND HB5412. I find it concerning that in a nation where lunatics are more frequently attacking places of worship, that we wouldn't join the rest of the nation in enabling citizens to defend themselves at these locations. Failure to address and pass these bills only shows Connecticut voters the true intentions of those who do not support these bills.

Support of HB5415 is equally important. Anyone who already possesses an 'assault weapon' must be able to transfer their 'assault weapons' to another individual who also owns these firearms. They have obviously proven themselves in the last decade as responsible firearm owners. Responsible gun ownership is a figure that is growing at record rates in this country and Connecticut is no exception.

Look at the current situation in Ukraine. With it being on the world's stage, where men and women alike are taking up arms in protection of their very lives and future of their country. Many governments around the world have been aiding the Ukrainians in any way possible, and often praising the civilian populace for their perseverance. How is it that we can push to provide arms to the civilian population of a foreign country, while simultaneously disarming law-abiding citizens in our own?

Lastly, let's not forget that this is an election year, anyone who votes in favor of these restrictions on law-abiding citizens will feel the full impact of our efforts as law-abiding citizens to VOTE YOU OUT OF OFFICE.

Brandon Nickle
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